

Bastian Daubert Presentation Mock-Up

VIAGRA DAUBERT HEARING

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University of California at San Francisco

Prepared: October 3, 2019

University of California, San Francisco CURRICULUM VITAE

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EDUCATION

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1987 - 1987	Dermatologische Klinik, LMU, Munich, Germany	Intern	Dermatology	
1987 - 1988	Schwabinger Krankenhaus, Munich, Germany	Intern	Medicine	
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1995 - 1996	University of California, San Francisco	Visiting Scholar	Dermatopathology	
1997 - 1999	University of California, San Francisco; Comprehensive Cancer Center	Fellow	Cancer Genetics Program	

LICENSES, CERTIFICATION

1989 Medical License: Bavarian Medical Board

1 of 65

- Professor of Dermatology and Pathology
- Distinguished Professor of Cancer Biology, Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Principal Investigator, Bastian Research Laboratory
- Leader, Cutaneous Oncology Research and Clinical Program
- Director, Molecular Dermatopathology Clinical Service
- Founder and Executive Director, Clinical Cancer Genomics Lab

Boris Bastian, M.D., Ph.D.

Selected Publications on Melanoma Initiation and Progression

REVIEWS

Cancer Cell

Genomic and Transcriptomic Analysis Reveals Incremental Disruption of Key Signaling Pathways during Melanoma Evolution

Graphical Abstract



Authors

A. Hunter Shain, Nancy M. Joseph, Richard Yu, ..., Iwei Yeh, Robert Judson, Boris C. Bastian

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Article

The Molecular Pathology of Melanoma: An Integrated Taxonomy of Melanocytic Neoplasia

Boris C. Bastian

VOLUME 24 • NUMBER 26 • SEPTEMBER 10, 2006

ORIGINAL REPORT

JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY



THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Distinct Sets of Genetic Alterations in Melanoma

John A. Curtin, Ph.D., Jane Fridlyand, Ph.D., Toshiro Kageshita, M.D., Hetal N. Patel, M.S., Klaus J. Busam, M.D., Heinz Kutzner, M.D., Kwang-Hyun Cho, M.D., Setsuya Aiba, M.D., Ph.D., Eva Betsina, M.D., Philip E. Leibel, M.D., Dan Pincus, Ph.D., and Boris C. Bastian, M.D.

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND
Exposure to ultraviolet light is a major causative factor in melanoma, although the relationship between risk and exposure is complex. We hypothesized that the heterogeneity is explained by genetically distinct types of melanoma with different cephalic to ultraviolet light.

METHODS
We compared genome-wide alterations in the number of copies of DNA and the status of BRAF and NRAS in 126 melanomas from four groups in which the exposure to ultraviolet light differs: 30 melanomas from skin with chronic sun damage and 40 melanomas from skin without such damage; 30 melanomas from sites, and subungual (acral) sites; and 20 mucosal melanomas.

RESULTS
We found significant differences in the frequencies of regional changes in the number of copies of DNA and mutation frequencies in BRAF among the four groups of melanoma. Samples could be correctly classified into the four groups with 70 percent on the basis of the changes in the number of copies of genomic DNA. In two portions, melanoma arising on skin with signs of chronic sun-induced skin damage and 40 melanomas from skin without such damage; 30 melanomas from sites, and subungual (acral) sites; and 20 mucosal melanomas. Eighty-one percent of melanomas on skin without chronic sun-induced skin damage had mutations in BRAF or NRAS, the majority of melanomas in the other groups had mutations in neither gene. Melanomas with wild-type BRAF or NRAS frequently had mutations in the number of copies of the genes for cyclin-dependent kinase 4 (CDKN4), downstream components of the RAS-BRAF pathway.

CONCLUSIONS
The genetic alterations identified in melanomas at different sites and with different exposure to ultraviolet light indicate that there are distinct genetic pathways in the development of melanoma and implicate CDKN4 and CDKN1 as independent oncogenes in melanoma without mutations in BRAF or NRAS.

Somatic Activation of KIT in Distinct Subtypes of Melanoma

John A. Curtin, Klaus Busam, Daniel Pincus, and Boris C. Bastian

ABSTRACT

Purpose
Melanomas on mucosal membranes, acral skin (soles, palms, and nail bed), and sun-induced damage have frequent mutations in BRAF and NRAS, genes with activated protein (MAP) kinase pathway commonly mutated in melanomas on sun-exposed skin. This raises the question of whether other alterations are common in the melanoma types with frequent mutations of BRAF and NRAS.

Methods
We analyzed array comparative genomic hybridization data from 102 primary melanomas, 28 from acral skin, and 18 from skin with and 18 from skin without chronic sun damage for DNA copy number alterations specific to melanoma subtypes with BRAF and NRAS are infrequent. A narrow amplification on 4q12 was found, and within it we analyzed.

Results
Oncogenic mutations in KIT were found in three of seven tumors with amplification of all 102 primary melanomas found mutations and/or copy number increases of mucosal, 36% of acral, and 28% of melanomas on chronically sun-damaged skin (80% melanomas on skin without chronic sun damage). Seventy-nine percent of tumors with mutations and 53% of tumors with multiple copies of KIT demonstrate protein levels.

Conclusions
KIT is an important oncogene in melanoma. Because the majority of the KIT mutations in melanoma also occur in melanin-responsive cancers of other types, imatinib immediate therapeutic benefit for a significant proportion of the global melanoma.

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INTRODUCTION

Although abnormalities in a limited number of interacting regulatory networks appear to be involved in cancer development, the many components of these networks offer numerous possibilities for disruption in a particular tumor. In some cases, the specific site of abnormality depends on tumor type or subtype. As we have recently shown in melanoma,¹ the mitogen-activated protein (MAP) kinase and phosphatidylinositol 3 (PI3) kinase pathways are activated differently among subtypes of melanoma when tumors are classified into four groups according to a combination of sun exposure and anatomic site. Most prominently, although BRAF mutations are highly prevalent (59%) in melanomas occurring on skin without signs of chronic sun-induced damage (non-CDN melanomas), BRAF mutations occur significantly less frequent in melanomas on sun-protected skin (acral) or mucosal membranes (mucosal) and are also uncommon in melanomas on skin showing evidence of chronic sun damage (chronic sun-damaged melanomas). Approximate melanomas of all four subtypes of melanoma arise from the same melanocyte lineage pathway by mutation of both NRAS and BRAF together. These findings raised the possibility that the melanocyte lineage pathway might be targeted by other factors that do not have NRAS or BRAF mutations.

PATIENTS AND METHODS

Study Population

We studied 102 primary melanomas (36 = 36, NRAS = 36, KIT = 36, and KIT = 36).

The Genetic Evolution of Melanoma from Precursor Lesions

A. Hunter Shain, Ph.D., Iwei Yeh, M.D., Ph.D., Ivankova Kovalyshyn, D.O., Aravindhan Srinivasan, M.D., Eric Tavech, Ph.D., Alexander Gagnon, B.A., Reinhard Dummer, M.D., Jeffrey North, M.D., Laura Piccus, M.D., Beth Ruben, M.D., William Rickaby, M.B., Ch.B., Corrado D'Amico, M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D., Alister Robson, F.R.C.Path., and Boris C. Bastian, M.D.

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND
The pathogenic mutations in melanoma have been largely catalogued; however, the order of their occurrence is not known.

METHODS
We sequenced 290 cancer-relevant genes in 150 areas of 37 primary melanomas and their adjacent precursor lesions. The histopathologic spectrum of these areas included unequivocally benign lesions, intermediate lesions, and intraepidermal or invasive melanomas.

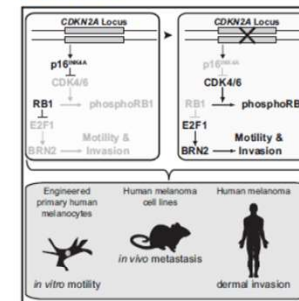
RESULTS
Precursor lesions were initiated by mutations of genes that are known to activate the mitogen-activated protein kinase pathway. Unequivocally benign lesions harbored BRAF V600E mutations exclusively, whereas those categorized as intermediate lesions were enriched for NRAS mutations and additional driver mutations. A total of 77% of areas of intermediate lesions and melanomas in situ harbored TERT promoter mutations, a finding that indicates that these mutations are selected at an unexpectedly early stage of the neoplastic progression. Biallelic inactivation of CDKN2A emerged exclusively in invasive melanomas. PTEN and TP53 mutations were found only in advanced primary melanomas. The point-mutation burden increased from benign through intermediate lesions to melanoma, with a strong signature of the effects of ultraviolet radiation detectable at all evolutionary stages. Copy-number alterations became prevalent only in invasive melanomas. Tumor heterogeneity became apparent in the form of genetically distinct subpopulations as melanomas progressed.

CONCLUSIONS
Our study defined the succession of genetic alterations during melanoma progression, showing distinct evolutionary trajectories for different melanoma subtypes. It identified an intermediate category of melanocytic neoplasia, characterized by the presence of more than one pathogenic genetic alteration and distinctive histopathologic features. Finally, our study implicated ultraviolet radiation as a major factor in both the initiation and progression of melanoma. (Funded by the National Institutes of Health and others.)

Cancer Cell

Bi-allelic Loss of CDKN2A Initiates Melanoma Invasion via BRN2 Activation

Graphical Abstract



Authors

Hanlin Zeng, Aparna Jorapur, A. Hunter Shain, ..., Iwei Yeh, Boris C. Bastian, Robert L. Judson

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In Brief

Zeng et al. find that complete CDKN2A loss coincides with the onset of invasiveness in melanocytic tumors at distinct progression stages. p16^{INK4A}, encoded by CDKN2A, inhibits E2F1-mediated transcriptional activation of BRN2, a transcription factor that has been associated with melanocytic invasive programs.

Highlights

- Engineering of human melanocytes is a tractable model for melanoma initiation
- The CDKN2A locus suppresses melanocyte migration and melanoma invasion
- p16^{INK4A} loss drives melanoma invasion via BRN2 activation
- BRN2 is a direct transcriptional target of E2F1

Zeng et al., 2016, Cancer Cell 24, 56-68
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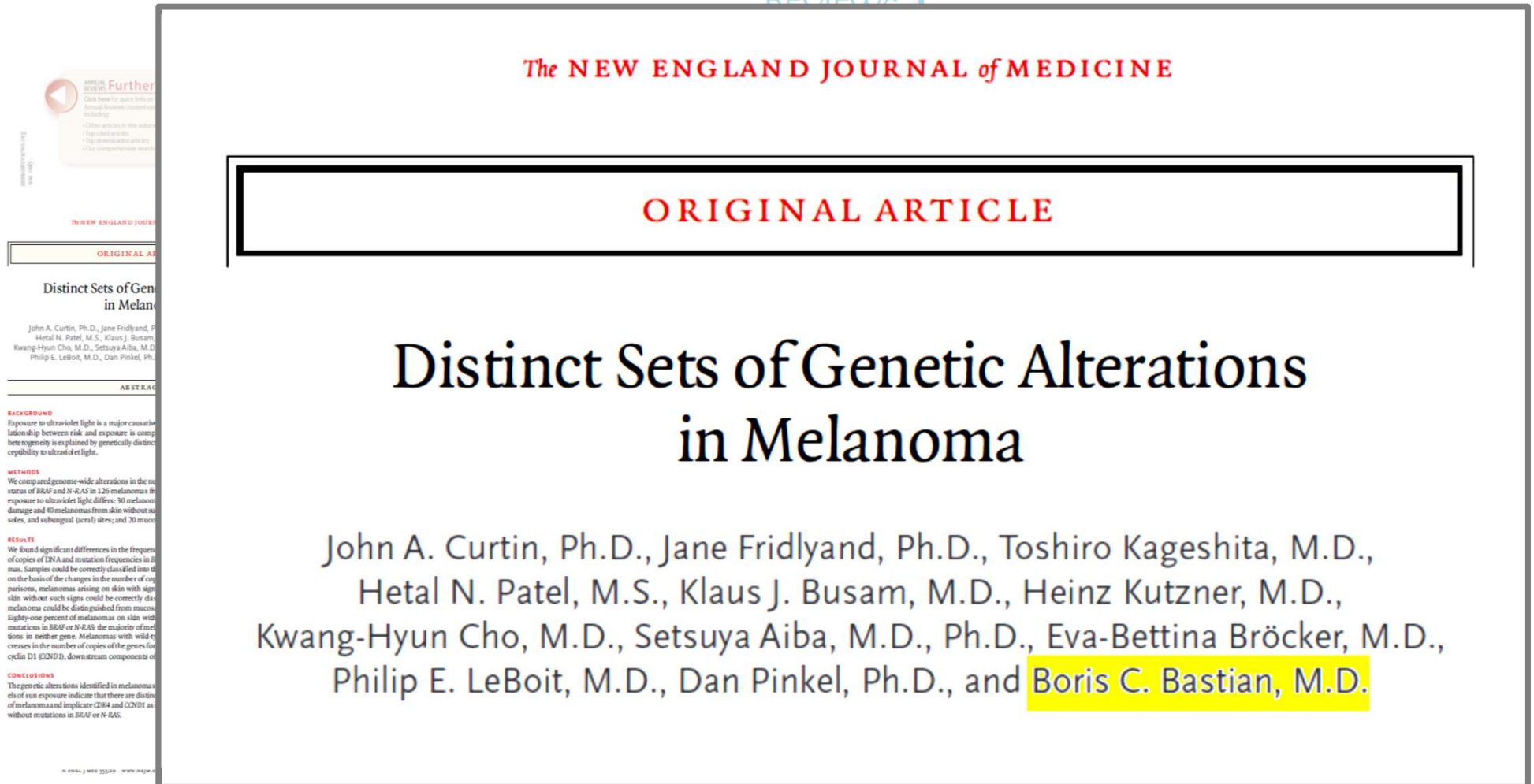
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Selected Publications on Melanoma Initiation and Progression



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Selected Publications on Melanoma Initiation and Progression

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The Molecular Pathology of Melanoma: An Integrated Taxonomy of Melanocytic Neoplasia

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Keywords

genetics, pathogenesis, classification, mutation, nevi

Abstract

Melanomas comprise multiple biologically distinct categories, which differ in cell of origin, age of onset, clinical and histologic presentation, pattern of metastasis, ethnic distribution, causative role of UV radiation, predisposing germ-line alterations, mutational processes, and patterns of somatic mutations. Neoplasms are initiated by gain-of-function mutations in one of several primary oncogenes, which typically lead to benign melanocytic nevi with characteristic histologic features. The progression of nevi is restrained by multiple tumor-suppressive mechanisms. Secondary genetic alterations override these barriers and promote intermediate or overtly malignant tumors along distinct progression trajectories. The current knowledge about the pathogenesis and clinical, histologic, and genetic features of primary melanocytic neoplasms is reviewed and integrated into a taxonomic framework.

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WHO Classification of Skin Tumours

Edited by David E. Elder, Daniela Massi, Richard A. Scolyer, Rein Willemze



WHO

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Cancer Cell

Genomic and Transcriptomic Analysis Reveals Incremental Disruption of Key Signaling Pathways during Melanoma Evolution

Graphical Abstract

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In Brief

Shain et al. show sequential MAPK pathway activation, telomerase upregulation, chromatin landscape modulation, G1/S checkpoint override, MAPK signaling ramp-up, p53 pathway disruption, and PI3K pathway activation during the evolution from pre-malignant lesions to melanoma, but no metastasis-specific mutations.

Authors

Hanlin Zeng, Aparna Jorapur, A. Hunter Shain, ..., Iwei Yeh, Boris C. Bastian, Robert L. Judson

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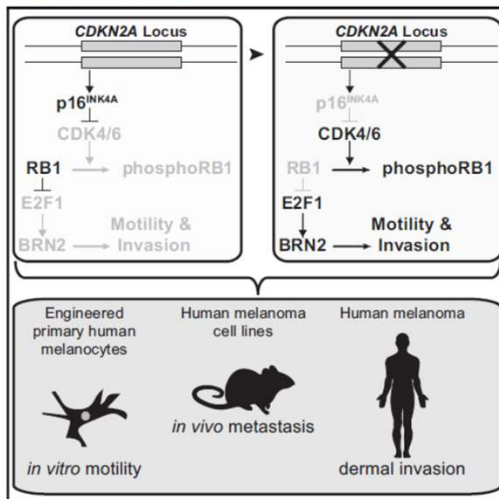
In Brief

Zeng et al. find that complete *CDKN2A* loss coincides with the onset of invasiveness in melanocytic tumors at distinct progression stages. *p16^{INK4A}*, encoded by *CDKN2A*, inhibits E2F1-mediated transcriptional activation of *BRN2*, a transcription factor that has been associated with melanocytic invasive programs.

Cancer Cell

Bi-allelic Loss of *CDKN2A* Initiates Melanoma Invasion via *BRN2* Activation

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Genomic and Transcriptomic Analysis Reveals Incremental Disruption of Key Signaling Pathways during Melanoma Evolution

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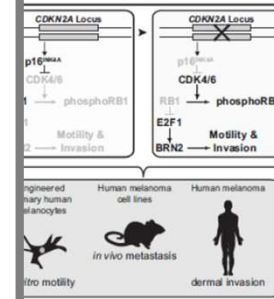
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Article

Cancer Cell

Bi-allelic Loss of *CDKN2A* Initiates Melanoma Invasion via *BRN2* Activation

Graphical Abstract



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Highlights

Engineering of human melanocytes is a tractable model for melanoma initiation

- The *CDKN2A* locus suppresses melanocyte migration and melanoma invasion
- *p16^{INK4A}* loss drives melanoma invasion via *BRN2* activation
- *BRN2* is a direct transcriptional target of E2F1

melanocytes become precursors only in melanoma melanocytomas, which became apparent in the form of genetically distinct subpopulations progressing.

We used the succession of genetic alterations during melanoma progression to define evolutionary trajectories for different melanoma subtypes. An intermediate category of melanocytic neoplasia, characterized by more than one pathogenic genetic alteration and distinctive histopathological features. Finally, our study implicated ultraviolet radiation as a major factor in the initiation and progression of melanoma. (Funded by the National Institutes of Health and others.)

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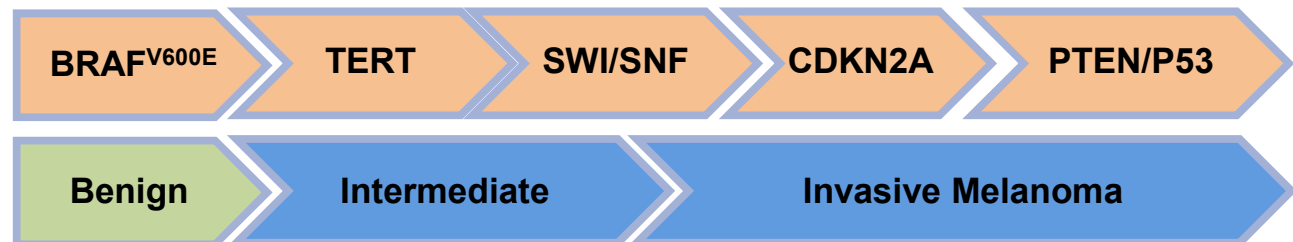
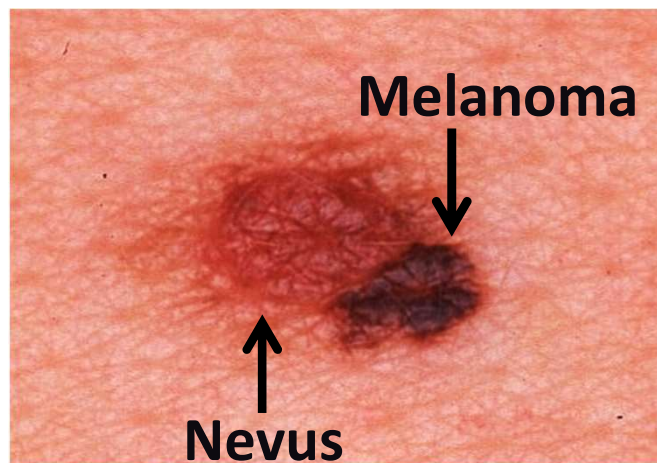
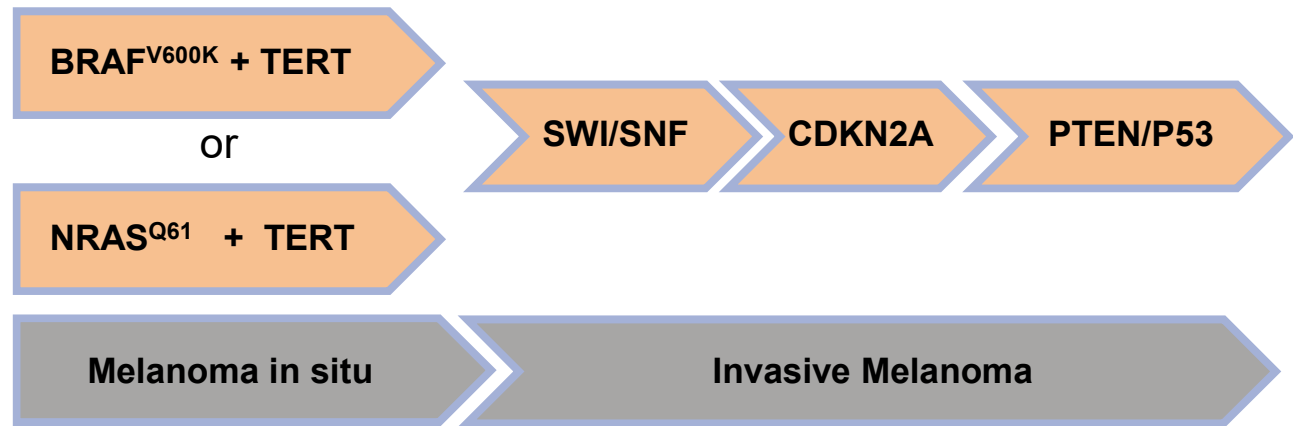
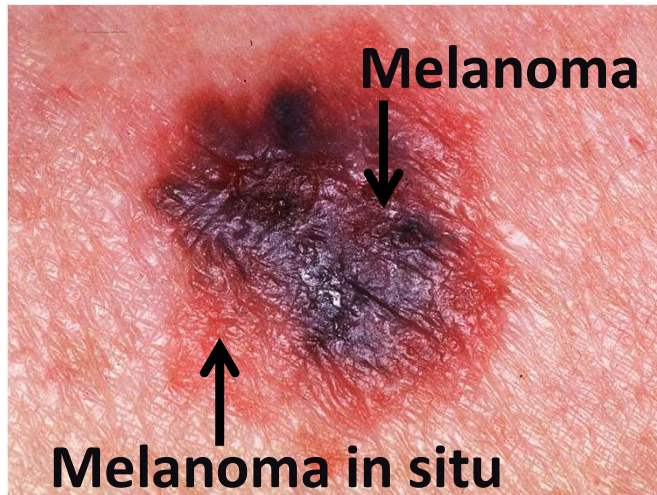
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CellPress

A Stepwise Accumulation of Mutations Causes Melanoma Initiation and Progression



“No Causal Link between Phosphodiesterase Type 5 Inhibition and Melanoma”

No Causal Link between Phosphodiesterase Inhibition and Melanoma

Jenny Z. Wang¹, Stephanie Le², Claire Alexanian¹, Sucharita Boddu², Ali Alina Marusina², Emanuel Maverakis¹

¹Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY; ²Department of Dermatology, University of California CA; ³Georgetown University School of Medicine, Washington, DC, USA

Purpose: To examine the association between phosphodiesterase type 5 (PDE5) inhibitor use and melanoma; and 2) determining if low PDE5A gene expression was related with decreased overall survival.

Materials and Methods: A systematic search of observational studies examining the association between PDE5 inhibitors and melanoma was performed through ClinicalTrials.gov, the Cochrane Library, EMBASE, PubMed, and seven eligible studies were identified. PDE5A gene expression was analyzed with human melanoma samples obtained from The Cancer Genome Atlas.

Results: Four studies reported a positive association between PDE5 inhibitor use and melanoma correlation. RNA sequencing data analysis revealed that under-expression of the PDE5A gene comes in melanoma.

Conclusions: There is currently no evidence to suggest that PDE5 inhibition in patients causes melanoma. The few observational studies that demonstrated a positive association between PDE5 inhibitors and melanoma failed to account for major confounders. Nonetheless, the substantial evidence implicating the nitric oxide (NO)-mediated melanoma pathway warrants further investigation.

Keywords: Melanoma; Phosphodiesterase 5 inhibitors; Sildenafil citrate; Tadalafil; Vardenafil dihydrochloride

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INTRODUCTION

Ever since the introduction of sildenafil 20 years ago, phosphodiesterase type 5 (PDE5) inhibitors have become the mainstay therapy in the treatment of penile erectile dysfunction (ED), which can be severely limiting in an estimated 5% to 20% of men worldwide [1].

PDE5 inhibitors work by activity that degrades cyclic guanosine monophosphate (cGMP), a smooth muscle relaxant in the penis. The link between PDE5 inhibition and melanoma is currently unclear.

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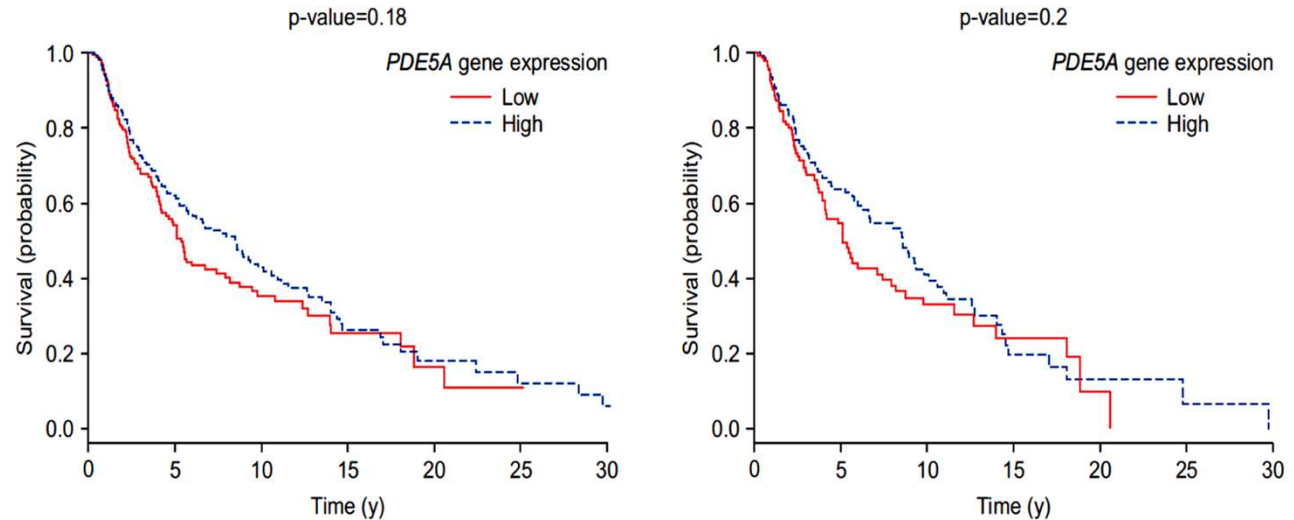


Fig. 1. Kaplan-Meier survival curve for differential expression levels of PDE5A gene in (A) **470 patients** (180 females and 290 males) with a diagnosis of melanoma at any tumor stage (0–IV), ages 14–91 years; and (B) specifically male melanoma patients (n=287) with a diagnosis of melanoma at any tumor stage (0–IV), ages 18–91 years. **Melanoma prognosis unaffected by high or low PDE5A expression in patients, regardless of gender, age, or tumor stage.**

Arozarena *In Vivo*: No Invasion Effect

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Cancer Cell
Article

Oncogenic BRAF Induces Melanoma Cell Invasion by Downregulating the cGMP-Specific Phosphodiesterase PDE5A

Imanol Arozarena,^{1,3} Berta Sanchez-Laorden,¹ Leisl Packer,¹ Cristina Amaya Vinos,¹ Erik Sahai,² and Richard Marais^{1,*}¹The Institute of Cancer Research, Signalling Transduction Team, Section of Tumour Cell Biology Laboratory, CR-UK/LRI, 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3LY, UK²Present address: Faculty of Life Sciences, Michael Smith Building, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, UK³Correspondence: richard.marais@icr.ac.uk

DOI: 10.1016/j.ccr.2010.10.029



SUMMARY

We show that in melanoma cells oncogenic BRAF, acting downstream of the cGMP-specific phosphodiesterase PDE5A, induces a small decrease in proliferation, its major impact is to stimulate increased contractility and inducing an increase in short-term and long-term colonization of the lung. This is because PDE5A downregulation leads to an increase in intracellular Ca^{2+} , stimulating increased contractility and inducing an increase in short-term and long-term colonization of the lung. This pathway in NRAS mutant melanoma or BRAF mutant cGMP-specific phosphodiesterase PDE5A induces invasion through downregulation of PDE5A.

INTRODUCTION

Melanocytes are specialized pigment cells located primarily in the skin, where they determine complexion and hair color and provide protection from the damaging effects of ultraviolet radiation (Gray-Schopfer et al., 2007; Kasper et al., 2007). These cells are also the precursors of melanoma, a potentially deadly skin cancer that kills about 8,000 people in the United States and about 12,000 people in Europe each year. In many Western societies, melanoma incidence almost doubles every decade. If treated early, melanoma can be cured by surgical resection, but due to its propensity to metastasize, in about 20% of patients it progresses to an aggressive invasive disease that is refractory to treatment and has a poor prognosis, with median survival rates of 6–9 months and 5-year survival rates of 5%–10%. These data highlight the need for improved understanding of melanoma biology to facilitate development of therapeutic strategies.

An important signaling pathway in melanoma is the RAS/RAF/MEK/ERK cascade (Gray-Schopfer et al., 2007). RAS is a small G

Significance

The protein kinase BRAF is activated by somatic gain-of-function mutations in the ERK pathway hyper-activation, and we show that this leads to downregulation of PDE5A. PDE5A is the target of drugs such as sildenafil and pulmonary arterial hypertension. PDE5A downregulation in vitro and in vivo increased long-term colonization of the lung. This pathway in NRAS mutant melanoma or BRAF mutant cGMP-specific phosphodiesterase PDE5A induces invasion through downregulation of PDE5A.

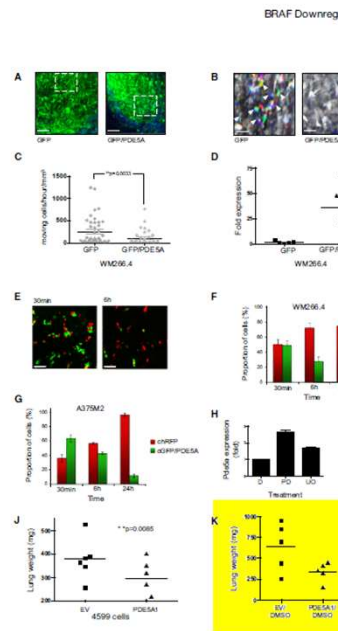
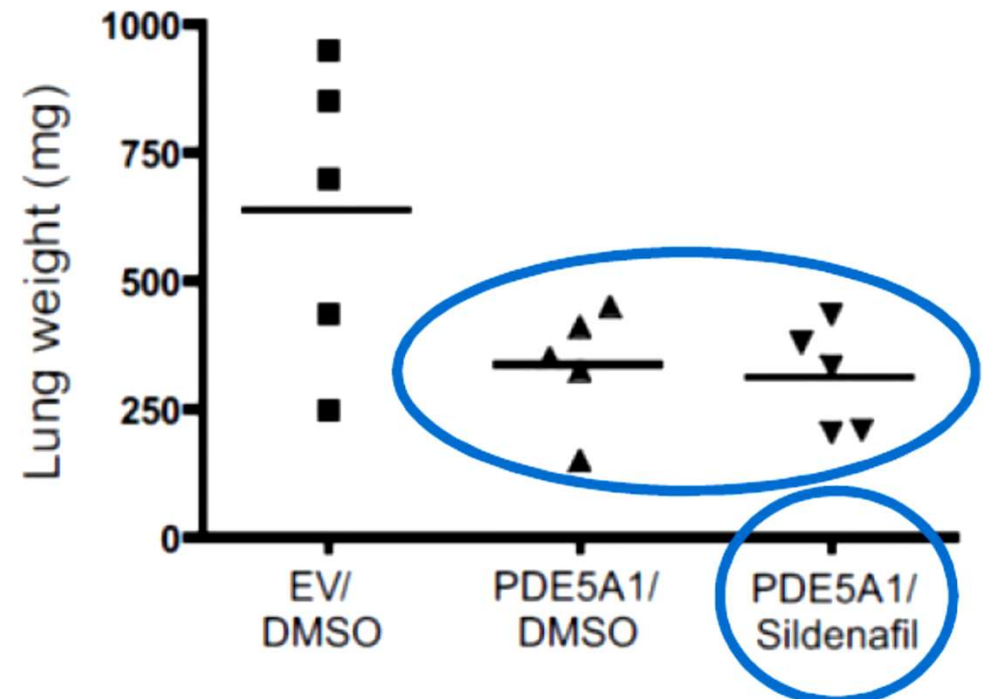


Figure 7. PDE5A Regulates Melanoma Cell Invasion In Vivo

(A) Low-resolution still images taken from video recordings of subcutaneous tumors formed from WM26.4-GFP (GFP) or WM26.4-GFP/PDE5A (GFP/PDE5A) cells. Scale bar, 80 μ m. (B) High-resolution images of the region highlighted in (A). Three images of the cells were taken at 0, 11, and 22 min, false-colored red, green, and blue, respectively, and then overlaid. Scale bar, 30 μ m. (C) Quantification of moving cells (scale bar) of 40 movies from 8 tumors formed using WM26.4-GFP (GFP) or WM26.4-GFP/PDE5A (GFP/PDE5A) cells. The solid bars represent the average number of moving cells for the two populations with error bars to represent standard deviations from the mean. (D) PDE5A mRNA expression in WM26.4-GFP (GFP) or WM26.4-GFP/PDE5A (GFP/PDE5A) tumors was determined by qRT-PCR. Five tumors for each cell type were analyzed in triplicate, and average values for individual tumors are shown, relative to the value for endogenous PDE5A in WM26.4-GFP cells. The bars represent the average level for each tumor group. (E) Fluorescent images of WM26.4-GFP (GFP) and WM26.4-GFP/PDE5A (GFP/PDE5A) cells in the lungs of mice 30 min or 6 hr after injection with equal number of each line. Scale bar, 75 μ m. (F) Quantification of 10 fields of cells from 3 mice 30 min, 6 hr, or 24 hr after injection with equal numbers of WM26.4-GFP (GFP) or WM26.4-GFP/PDE5A (GFP/PDE5A) cells. (G) Quantification of 10 fields of cells from 3 mice 30 min, 6 hr, or 24 hr after injection with equal numbers of A375M2-GFP (GFP) or A375M2-GFP/PDE5A (GFP/PDE5A) cells. (H) Expression of Pde5a mRNA quantified by qRT-PCR in 10^6 cells expressing 4599-mouse melanoma cells treated with DMSO (D), PDE5A1 (P), or PDE5A1 + Sildenafil (S). (I) Western blot showing PDE5A and ERK2 loading control levels in 4599 melanoma cells expressing empty vector (EV) or PDE5A1. (J) Lung weights from mice following tail vein injection of 4599 melanoma cells expressing empty vector (EV) or PDE5A1. The weights of the individual lungs are shown, with the bars representing the mean.

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Research Community on B16 Mouse Melanoma

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The Future of Preclinical Mouse Is Now

Glenn Merlino, Keith Flaherty, Nicolas Aouf, Terry Van Dyke, and Meenhard Herlyn

On October 17th, 2012 a group of scientists met at the Wistar Institute to discuss the current status and future of the mouse as a model system (NCT), Terry Van Dyke (NCI) development of better preclinical models what informatics modelers acquaint clinicians scientists included Drs. Keith (Memorial Sloan Kettering), and Nicolas Aouf (Pesi researchers included Drs. Ar Sheri Holmen (Huntsman Cancer), Keiran Smalley (Moffitt Cancer), CSO Adelson Medical Research Foundation Breakthrough Cancer Research Alliance).

An underlying premise of the trials always seem to be one support them. Candidate anti that typically employ the genetic subcutaneously xenografted models are overly reliant on culture and have an inadequate system, and so have proven many drugs move into the clinic. The melanoma field finds its predictive of clinical response discussions on the current state models, and how these two descriptions of new resources and conclusions concerning challenges.

However, current in depth knowledge about the complex molecular basis of human melanoma has revealed that this well-established and widely used cell line [B16] **does not reflect the genetic underpinnings of human melanoma.**

the cognate immune system for any model may be paramount in developing accurate immune response hypotheses.

For more than five decades, the tumor immunology field has greatly benefited from the development of the poorly immunogenic B16 mouse melanoma model. However, current in-depth knowledge about the complex molecular basis of human melanoma has revealed that this well-established and widely used cell line does not reflect the genetic underpinnings of human melanoma. Instead, preclinical animal models used for efficacy testing of novel immunotherapeutic modalities should be founded on relevant human biology. To help achieve this, the mutational landscape of human melanoma should be modeled on mouse hosts with intact immune systems (e.g., C57BL/6 mice), allowing the evaluation of the effects of the immune system and host-tumor interactions. Ideally, a tumor exhibiting intrinsic immunogenicity on an immunocompetent host would result in the intratumoral recruitment of cellular elements comprising both the innate and adaptive arms of the host immune system. This desired attribute could recapitulate the failure of host immunologic barriers to impede effective antitumor responses in humans.

In addition, the presence of tumor infiltrating lymphocytes in immunocompetent mouse models would recapitulate the occurrence of functionally tolerant T-cell repertoires against unknown tumor antigens in patients with melanoma. A point of concern is the insertion of artificial genetic information (e.g. "non-self" proteins) into tumors that may inadvertently increase their immunogenicity. The artificial aspects of this sort of immunity may not

Pigment Cell Melanoma Res. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2014 July 24.

Dhayade *In Vitro*: Does Not Study Sildenafil Alone

Case 3:16-md-02691-RS Document 837-37 Filed 01/11/19 Page 1 of 26

Cell Reports

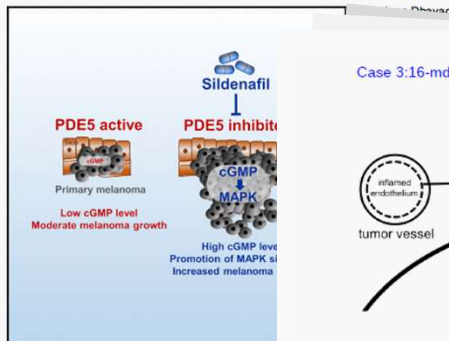
Sildenafil Potentiates a cGMP-Dependent Pathway to Promote Melanoma Growth

Graphical Abstract

Article

Authors

Case 3:16-md-



Highlights

- Melanoma cells express a cGMP signaling pathway via PDE5
- The cGMP pathway promotes MAPK signaling, which promotes melanoma cell growth and migration
- PDE5 degrades cGMP and thus acts as a brake on the growth-promoting cGMP pathway
- The PDE5 blocker sildenafil releases the PDE5 brake to increase tumor growth

Dhayade et al., 2016, Cell Reports 14, 2599–2607
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The role of inflamed tumor vessels as the **source of endogenous CNP** in melanomas needs to be **established in future studies.**

Figure S5 (Related to figure 7). Model of cGMP Signaling in Melanoma Pathogenesis

The scheme illustrates how a bidirectional crosstalk of cGMP and MAPK signaling promotes the switch of non-metastatic cells in primary melanomas to invasive/metastatic cells. CNP is released from endothelial cells (dashed circle) of the inflamed tumor vasculature (upper left) and binds to its receptor, GC-B, on melanoma cells. Thereby, CNP triggers an increase of the intracellular cGMP concentration and activation of cGKIα in the melanoma cells. Via phosphorylation of yet unknown substrate proteins, cGKIα promotes MAPK signaling upstream of MEK (indicated by the bracket), resulting in cells with increased potential for growth, migration, and invasiveness to develop. Degradation of cGMP via PDE5 acts as a “break” in this switching process. However, a persistent increase in MAPK signaling, for instance, by sustained activity of the CNP-cGMP-cGKI cascade and/or by somatic gain-of-function mutation of BRAF to V600E-BRAF (Arozarena et al., 2011), results in downregulation of PDE5 at the transcriptional level. This releases the PDE5 “break”, thus, establishing a feed-forward, self-reinforcing loop that further enhances the aggressiveness of the melanoma cells. The PDE5 “break” can also be released pharmacologically by the PDE5 inhibitor sildenafil. Note that CNP and sildenafil might act mainly on cells of the primary tumor to increase their metastatic potential, and that “switched” metastatic cells might lose expression of both cGKI and PDE5. Note also that the present study has analyzed the effects of exogenously supplied CNP. The role of inflamed tumor vessels as the source of endogenous CNP in melanomas needs to be established in future studies. U0126 is a MEK inhibitor used in the present study. RTK stands for receptor tyrosine kinase.

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PDE inhibitors could increase cellular cGMP levels and are used to treat erectile dysfunction as well as pulmonary arterial hypertension was reported to be necessary for UVB-induced melanin synthesis, however, the effect of PDE5 inhibitor on melanin had not been examined. We found that PDE5 inhibitor (sildenafil or vardenafil) and the cGMP analog 8-BrPT-cGMP phosphorylation, leading to increased tyrosinase expression and melanin synthesis, which was counteracted by KT5723. cGMP-dependent protein kinase (PKG) inhibitor. However, KT5823 did not affect cAMP-elevating agent-mediated cAMP-dependent that KT5823 selectively inhibited cGMP-induced melanin synthesis. This is the first study to find that PDE5 inhibitor could increase melanin synthesis by increasing cGMP phosphorylation and tyrosinase expression is involved in melanin synthesis. Our results suggest that PDE5 inhibitor may be beneficial for the treatment of hypopigmentation diseases. *J. Cell. 2738-2743, 2012*. © 2012 Wiley Periodicals, Inc.

KEY WORDS: MELANIN SYNTHESIS; PDPS INHIBITORS; PKC; TYROSINASE

Melanin is an important skin pigment in human and contributes significantly to the health of an individual [Gilchrist, 1989; Sturm, 2002]. Lack or decreased levels of melanin in human lead to many skin diseases, termed hypopigmentary disorders including vitiligo and gray hair [Hartmann et al., 2004; Dessiniotti et al., 2009]. There are several treatments for hypopigmentary diseases, but there remain some problems, such as poor efficacy and severe side effects [Hartmann et al., 2004; Herczogova et al., 2007]. Thus the search for new types of treatments of hypopigmentary diseases with high efficacy and low toxicity is warranted.

Melanin is synthesized in melanocytes via a cascade of enzymatic reactions controlled by tyrosinase [Hearing, 1999; Kim et al., 2010]. Tyrosinase is the rate-limiting enzyme of melanin synthesis that catalyzes the hydroxylation of L-tyrosine to L-3,4-dihydroxyphenylalanine (L-DOPA) and the oxidation of L-DOPA to dopaquinone

[Slominski et al., 2004]. Melanin synthesis is stimulated by a variety of intrinsic and extrinsic factors, including agents, UVB, and a wide variety of growth factors [Friedmann and Gilchrist, 1987; Yasumoto et al., 2009; Ho et al., 2010]. cAMP pathway plays a role in regulation of melanogenesis through activation of protein kinase (PKA) and cAMP response element transcription factor, which induced an up-regulation of expression and the stimulation of melanogenesis [et al., 2004; Park et al., 2009].

For the first time in 1996, the second messenger to be required for melanin synthesis induced by increase cGMP content in melanocytes [Rome 1996]. Phosphodiesterase 5 (PDE5) is the prev responsible for cGMP hydrolysis in various type: [Kass et al., 2007]. PDE5 inhibitors such as sildenafil

Xiaodong Zhang and Guirui Yan contributed equally to this work.

Additional supporting information may be found in the online version of this article.

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[CANCER RESEARCH 53, 3058-3061, July 1, 1993]

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ABSTRACT

Isoenzymes of 3',5'-cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterase (PDE) have been characterized in B16 murine melanoma cells and MCF-7 human mammary carcinoma cells. Separation of soluble phosphodiesterase activity by fast protein liquid chromatography on a Mono-Q column resolved three isoenzymes. MCF-7 cells contained a cyclic GMP-specific isoenzyme (PDE-V), a cyclic GMP-activatable isoenzyme (PDE-II), and a cyclic AMP-specific isoenzyme (PDE-IV). B16 cells contained a cyclic GMP-specific isoenzyme (PDE-V), a Ca^{2+} /calmodulin-activated isoenzyme (PDE-I), and a cyclic AMP-specific isoenzyme (PDE-IV).

A series of PDE inhibitors was tested for their activity spectrum on PDE isoenzymes. Inhibition of PDE activity in B16 cells by the new compound DC-TA-46, was found to result specifically from PDE-IV inhibition [50% inhibition (IC_{50}) = 0.03 μ M]. Much lower inhibitory activity was observed for DC-TA-46 toward PDE-I (IC_{50} = 5 μ M) and PDE-V (IC_{50} = 14 μ M).

DC-TA-46 was found to inhibit growth of B16 melanoma and MCF-7 mammary carcinoma cells dose dependently (B16: $IC_{50} = 1.7 \mu M$; MCF-7: $IC_{50} = 2 \mu M$). At $2 \mu M$ concentration, growth inhibition of B16 melanoma cells was 60%, concomitant with a decrease in PDE activity of 63% and an increase in cAMP level of 59%. In contrast, incubation with inhibitors specific for PDE-I and PDE-V resulted only in marginal or undetectable growth inhibition. The results suggest a correlation between PDE-IV inhibition and growth inhibition. PDE-IV thus appears to be a potential new target for antiproliferative treatment.

INTRODUCTION

Multiple forms of PDE¹ have been demonstrated in various tissues or cells and have been characterized on the basis of substrate specificity, sensitivity to calmodulin or phosphodiesterase inhibitors, and kinetic parameters (1-3). However, no data are available yet concerning isoenzyme distribution in MCF-7 and B16 tumor cells. We found three isoenzymes: in MCF-7 cells, PDE-II, PDE-IV, and PDE-V; in B16 cells, PDE-I, PDE-IV, and PDE-V. Isoenzyme nomenclature follows that introduced by Beavo (2).

Each form of cAMP has a unique role in the regulation of the intracellular level of cyclic nucleotides. cAMP is a positive intracellular signal for cell proliferation in many differentiated cells (4, 5). In many tumor cells, however, cAMP is a negative messenger for proliferation, showing a much lower basal level than in normal cells (5). Some data indicate that the activity of 3',5'-cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterase is elevated in tumor cells (3, 6). Various agents elevating cAMP have previously been found to inhibit tumor cell growth *in vitro*. PDE inhibitors, especially those of the methylxanthine type, display, however, growth inhibition only at rather high concentrations (5, 7-14).

noma, was tested for its effects. The results were identified to find out if the treatment was relevant for growth in the study.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Preparation of Cell Extracts. Buffers were performed at 0°C during, was suspended in 1 benzimidazole, 0.1 mM phenyl, 0.1 mM *N*- α -p-tosyl-L-lysine peptin, 0.25 M sucrose, 0.05 at $1,000 \times g$ for 10 min. T $100,000 \times g$ for 60 min to

PDE Assay. PDE activity (16) with slight modification in buffer containing 50 mM Incubation was carried out in $[^3H]$ -5'-AMP was precipitated the supernatant was subject without PDE.

Mono-Q Ion Exchange
cell extract was loaded at 1 (5 × 0.5 cm), preequilibrated 0.1 M phenylmethylsulfonyl-*p*-tosyl-L-lysine chloromethyl Tris/HCl, pH 7.4). After we eluted at 1 ml/min, using a Fractions of 1 ml were collected.

Effects of Ca²⁺/Calmod
determined in the presence of cAMP

Determination of IC₅₀
sulfoxide at a stock concentration of 100 μM. B to provide a range of concentrations in the assay concentration from the 100 μM stock were performed in duplicate.

Kinetic Parameters. Eluting from the Mono-Q final concentration of 10 μM. 0.05 to 100 or 500 μM. A that no more than 15% of

Cells ($3-4 \times 10^5$ /96 medium was replaced every 48 h throughout performed in triplicate and were 7-95%.

ANTICANCER RESEARCH 30: 355-358 (2010)

Expression and Role of Phosphodiesterase 5 in Human Malignant Melanoma Cell Line

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Abstract. Background: Eleven phosphodiesterase (PDE) gene families (PDE1-11) have been identified, and some PDE isoforms are selectively expressed in various cell types. Previously, we reported PDE1, PDE3 and PDE4 expressions in human malignant melanoma cells. However, the expression and role of PDE5 in malignant melanoma cells is not clear. Therefore, we characterized PDE5 in human malignant melanoma MAA cells. Materials and Methods: PDE5 activity and PDE5A mRNA expression were investigated in MAA cells. The full open reading frames for human PDE5A1 were sequenced. Effects of PDE5 inhibitors on cell growth were determined by 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-5-(3-carboxymethylphenyl)-2-(4-sulfonylphenyl)-2H-tetrazolium, inner salt (MTS) assay. Results: PDE5 activity and PDE5A1 mRNA expression were detected in MAA cells. The nucleotide sequence of PDE5A1 was identical to that of human PDE5A1, previously published. Two PDE5 inhibitors inhibited the growth of cells. Conclusion: PDE5A1 mRNA is expressed and may play an important role in the growth of human malignant melanoma MAA cells.

Eleven phosphodiesterase (PDE) gene families (PDE1-11) have been identified, and some PDE isoforms are selectively expressed in various tissues and cell types, but in different amounts, proportions and subcellular locations. All 11 PDE gene families encode proteins that exhibit a common structural organization, with a conserved catalytic domain in C-terminal portions and divergent regulatory modules and domains in the N-terminal regions of the PDE proteins [1,2].

the hydrolysis of cyclic nucleotides, PDEs regulate the intracellular concentrations and effects of these secondary messengers. Some PDE families are relatively specific for cAMP (PDEs 4, 7 and 8) or for cGMP (PDEs 5, 6 and 9); others hydrolyze both (PDEs 1-3, 10 and 11) (1, 2, 4).

PDES is relatively specific for cGMP and is expressed abundantly in vascular smooth muscle, including the pulmonary vasculature and corpus cavernosum of the penis. Three alternatively splicing variants of human *PDE5A* (*PDE5A1*, *PDE5A2* and *PDE5A3*) have been identified and their tissue distribution differs (2, 3, 5). PDE5 inhibitor sildenafil improves penile erection with a minimal risk of side-effects and adverse events in many men with erectile dysfunction (1-3, 5). However, the expression and role of PDES in human malignant melanoma cells is not clear. Therefore, we examined *PDES* in human malignant melanoma MAA cells.

Materials and Methods

Cell culture. Human malignant melanoma MAA cells were established and maintained in RPMI 1640 containing 10% fetal bovine serum (Invitrogen Corp., Carlsbad, CA, USA) at 37°C in a humidified 5% CO₂ atmosphere in our laboratory (6).

Dr. Piazza 2000 Patent



US06156528A

United States Patent [19]

[11] Patent Number: 6,156,528

Pamukcu et al.

[45] Date of Patent: *Dec. 5, 2000

[54] METHODS FOR USING A PHOSPHODIESTERASE IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCREENING TO IDENTIFY COMPOUNDS FOR TREATMENT OF NEOPLASIA

[75] Inventors: Rifat Pamukcu, Spring House; Gary A. Piazza, Doylestown, both of Pa.

[73] Assignee: Cell Pathways, Inc., Horsham, Pa.

[*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

[21] Appl. No.: 09/216,070

[22] Filed: Dec. 19, 1998

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of application No. 08/866,027, May 30, 1997, Pat. No. 5,858,694.

[51] Int. Cl. C12Q 1/26

[52] U.S. Cl. 435/25; 435/13; 435/19; 435/184

[58] Field of Search 435/4, 6, 15, 19, 435/25, 184, 196, 424/9.1, 9.2; 436/64

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Earnest D. Piroxicam and Potential for Cancer Chem
chemistry Supplement 161

(List continued on next page.)

Primary Examiner—Ralph Gilmer
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Robert W. Stevenson

[57] ABSTRACT

This invention provides a potentially useful for the treatment of neoplasia. The phosphodiesterase inhibitor is determined along with growth inhibitory and apoptosis inducing activity. Growth inhibitory and apoptosis inducing activity are also determined. Phosphodiesterase inhibitor activity, but not sub activity, are desirable for it.

14 Claims, 1

Date of Patent: *Dec. 5, 2000

Inventors: Rifat Pamukcu, Spring House;
Gary A. Piazza, Doylestown, both of Pa.

activity of a test compound. Because the inventors have discovered a relationship between inhibition of cancer and inhibition of phosphodiesterase Type-5 isoenzyme (“PDE5”), this invention includes determining the PDE5

As used herein, the term “carcinoma” or “cancer” refers to lesions which are cancerous. Examples include malignant melanomas, breast cancer, prostate cancer and colon cancer.

Dr. Piazza 2018 Patent

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US010039764B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Piazza
(10) Patent No.: **US 10,039,764 B2**
(45) Date of Patent: **Aug. 7, 2018**

(54) **TREATMENT AND DIAGNOSIS OF CANCER** (52) **Reference Cited**

(71) Applicant
(72) Inventor
(73) Assignee

(*) Notice:

(21) Appl. No.: **14/504,632** 8,017,604 B2 9/2011 Alberati et al.

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(87) PCT Pub 8,247,418 B2 8/2012 Allen et al.

(65) US 2016

R

(60) Provision 12, 2013

(51) Int. Cl.

A61K 31

A61K 31

A61K 31

A61K 31

A61K 31

A61K 31

A61K 45

C12Q 1/

G01N 3/

(52) U.S. Cl.

CPC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

Disclosed are methods for treating cancer and precancerous conditions with PDE10A specific inhibitors and diagnosis of neoplastic diseases based on elevated levels of PDE10A.

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC A61K 31/415; A61K 31/4709; A61K 31/4745; A61K 31/4155; A61K 31/4409

See application file for complete search history.

8 Claims, 15 Drawing Sheets

Examples of cancers characterized by solid tumors which may be treated include ...
melanoma

For instance, in some embodiments, the PDE10A inhibitor is co-administered with a PDE5 inhibitor to improve efficacy or reduce the effective dose range of the PDE10A inhibitory.

Representative examples of PDE5 inhibitors that may be useful in the practice of the present invention include sildenafil, tadalafil, vardenafil, udenafil, and avanafil or others such as MY5445 or compounds that increase intracellular cGMP levels (e.g., nitric oxide donors or releasing drugs). Examples of yet other PDE5 inhibitors that may be suitable for

Ongoing Research

Sponsor: National Cancer Institute (NCI)

Tadalafil is a phosphodiesterase type 5 (PDE5) inhibitor . . .

PDE5 inhibitors have been examined in multiple malignancies and cancer cell lines for their **direct anticancer activities**, for their efficacy as **chemo-sensitizers** and for **cancer chemoprevention**.

Nivolumab (Anti-PD1), Tadalafil and Oral Vancomycin in People With Refractory Primary Hepatocellular Carcinoma or Liver

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Nivolumab (Anti-PD1), Tadalafil and Oral Vancomycin in People With Hepatocellular Carcinoma or Liver Dominant Metastatic Cancer From Pancreatic Cancers

The safety and scientific validity of this study is the responsibility of the study sponsor and investigators. Listing a study does not mean it has been evaluated by the U.S. Federal Government. [Know the risks and potential benefits](#) of clinical studies and talk to your health care provider before participating. Read our [disclaimer](#) for details.

ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:
NCT03785210

Recruitment Status ☐
First Posted ☐ : Dec 10, 2016
Last Update Posted ☐ : Dec 10, 2016
See [Contacts and Locations](#)

Sponsor:
National Cancer Institute (NCI)

Information provided by (Responsible Party):
National Institutes of Health Clinical Center (CC) (National Cancer Institute (NCI))

Study Details Tabular View No Results Posted Disclaimer

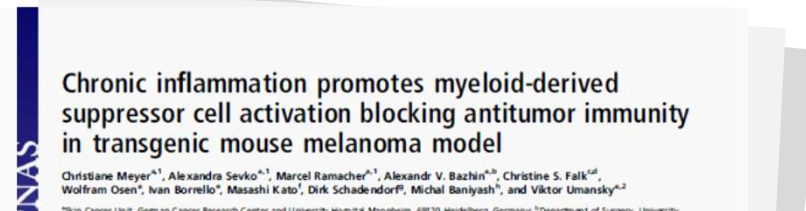
[How to Read a Study Record](#)

Study Description Go to

Brief Summary:

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT03785210>[9/9/2019 11:31:56 AM]

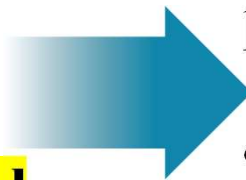
PDE-5 Inhibitors and Immunity: Anti-Melanoma Effects



“manipulation of the melanoma microenvironment with ...

sildenafil”

“significantly **increased survival** of tumor-bearing mice.”



“**Tadalafil** led to a stabilization of the disease in 3 of 12 pretreated patients in the palliative setting.”

“Our study suggests that the PDE-5 inhibitor **tadalafil can improve clinical outcome of advanced melanoma patients. . .**”

